



PRESS RELEASE

Riverside Police Department • 4102 Orange Street • Riverside, CA 92501
Phone (951) 826-5147 • Fax (951) 826-2593

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Friday, September 21, 2007
Contact: Steven Frasher, Press Information Officer
Phone: (951) 826-5147

Arrest in retail theft investigation

Ringleader arrested at pawn shop; group suspect of \$1 million in thefts

Riverside, CA -- On September 19, 2007, at approximately 12:15 p.m., investigators from the Riverside Police Department arrested suspect Timothy Wayne SHEROW, 48, of Las Vegas Nevada, for multiple counts of burglary, possession of stolen property, possession of burglary tools, false personation, and parole violation.

Sherow, who had been sought by the California Department of Corrections for parole violation, had evaded capture for nearly one year. He is suspected of being the leader of an organized retail theft group operating between the Las Vegas and the Los Angeles areas.



Timothy Wayne Sherow

Riverside Police Detective Charles Payne learned of Sherow's criminal activities while investigating local pawn shop transactions as part of a Riverside Police Burglary Suppression effort. Det. Payne and his East Neighborhood Policing Center (NPC) detective team conducted on-going surveillance of Sherow and his theft crew for several months.

Sherow is suspected of leading a crew of six other suspects, who have been committing large amounts of retail theft and fraud in Riverside and adjacent counties. The group focuses on large retail stores, where they steal clothing and DVD box-sets. The group has been consistently utilizing an Eastside Riverside pawn shop to fence the stolen DVD's. To date, the group has sold over \$500,000 in retail merchandise to the shop for a cash profit of more than \$100,000. The group's total retail thefts are estimated at more than \$1 million.

At the time of his arrest, Sherow was attempting to sell an additional \$2,800 worth of stolen DVD's to the pawn shop. When arrested, Sherow, was in possession of burglary tools and stolen clothing from a local retailer. He initially identified himself by the name of one of his relatives in an effort to evade prosecution. Arrest warrants for the remaining theft crew members are expected in the coming weeks.

